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Art Unit 1638

Commissioner for Patents

PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 10/520,033; § 371 Date: December 30, 2004

For: Transcription Factor Gene Induced by Water Deficit Conditions And Abscisic Acid From Helianthus Annuus, Promoter And Transgenic Plants

Inventors: CHAN et al.

Our Ref: 2510.0040000/JAG/SAC

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action is the following document:

 Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, with Exhibit 1; Exhibit 1: Palena et al., Biochem J. 341:81-87 (1999).

The above-listed document is being filed electronically through EFS-Web

In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Shannon A. Carroll, Ph.D. Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 58,240

SAC/rjv Enclosures

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